



Tempo!

Tempo! is published by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association to provide programming and activity information to its members monthly.

APRIL 2023

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- April 24 - 26 | State Choral Festival East
- April 28 | 2024 MMC Interest Submissions Deadline
- April 29 | District 8 S&E Festival MS
- April 29 | District 10 S&E Festival MS
- May 3 - 4 | State Choral Festival South
- May 5, 8 - 9 | State Choral Festival West
- May 8 - 9 | State Choral Festival Central
- May 9 | A Cappella Festival
- May 11 - 13 | All-State Festival
- May 15 | MMC 2024 Choral Hour Performance Application Deadline

All-State Festival

All-State Festival Gala Concert

Thursday, May 11, 2023

7 PM

Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium Building, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing, MI 48824

The closest parking is lot #9.

All-State Festival Solo and Ensemble Recitals

Friday, May 12, 2023

10 AM, 1 PM and 3 PM

Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 W Circle Dr, East Lansing, MI 48824

The closest parking is the Grand River Parking Ramp (Ramp #6) or Lot #62.

All-State Festival Honors Choir Concert

Saturday, May 13, 2023

3 PM

Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium Building, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing, MI 48824

The closest parking is lot #9.



MSVMA All-State Choir Weekend includes:

- Three days of rehearsals with nationally recognized conductor-teachers at the newly remodeled MSU College of Music.
- Public performance in Fairchild Theater - Saturday afternoon at 3 PM.
- Dorm and cafeteria experience in the Brody neighborhood that gives students a glimpse into college life on campus.
- Final performance with MSU student instrumentalists.
- Full group attendance at the opening All-State Gala concert.
- Friday evening social event.

"I began coordinating the MSVMA All-State Choir in 2019, the final year of the in-person Michigan Youth Arts Festival. After cancellation in 2020 and a world-class virtual panel workshop in 2021, we were thrilled to find our new All-State Choir home at Michigan State University. Dr. Kristina Caswell-MacMullen was the perfect conductor with Michigan roots to reignite our fabulous MSVMA All-State tradition. We're excited to offer All-State singers an expanded three day schedule and what's sure to be an inspiring experience making music with Dr. Cara Tasher."

- Sarah Price, All-State Supervisor



"MSVMA All-State Choir is a pinnacle event for choral music education in Michigan! The singers experience masterful instruction steeped in musicianship and artistry while connecting with peers at the highest level. As last year's accompanist, it was my sincere honor to be a part of this worthwhile program."

- Todd Schreiber, All-State Accompanist

"I wanted to come back to chaperone since it is the first time I've had a student in the choir for almost seven years. I always enjoyed the entire experience. I love watching my students interact with guest directors who have so much experience. They really get a lot out working with the other students as well. It is a great experience for my kids and I enjoy sharing that moment with them.

I would have come to the All-State in 2020 as I had the same student gain acceptance that spring. But unfortunately we know the history of that entire year.



So far, the experience has been great. My student and I love the selected music. She is very excited about the chance to finally be a part of this choir."

- George G. Smith IV, Director of Bands and Choirs, Bad Axe Public Schools and All-State Chaperone

Submitted by Sarah Price, All-State Supervisor

"MSVMA Teacher Choir" is Singing the National Anthem at a Detroit Tigers game!



Come Join the Fun!

MSVMA is, once again, going to be the 'Nonprofit of the Night' at a Detroit Tigers game. We have the added excitement of singing the National Anthem for that game. To ensure that we have a large and well-balanced group, we are asking that you RSVP by May 15 to be included. Please **RSVP** and claim your tickets for the game.

Friday, June 9, 6:40 PM
Detroit Tigers vs. Arizona Diamondbacks

Choral Student Leadership Conference



Helping students become the next generation of choral leaders!

Are there students in your choir who help to make your program stronger? Do you have singers who step up to meet whatever challenges your choir faces? Consider registering these young leaders for the MSVMA Choral Student Leadership Conference.

MSVMA has created a conference experience designed to encourage and develop the leadership skills and knowledge of our high school and college student leaders. This year's conference will be held on Wednesday, June 21 on the campus of Eastern Michigan University Honors College Auditorium and Reception Hall. The 2023 conference will feature **Coty Raven Morris** as our dynamic conference leader. If you are not familiar with Coty's work, please check out her website.

Student leadership in the choral classroom provides the opportunity for emerging leaders to set the pace musically, organizationally and inspirationally within their choir community. Investing in our young leaders allows them time to consider the type of leadership style that fits their values and beliefs. It also helps them become more aware of the effective leadership around them, on a daily basis, and the impact on others.

Call for MSVMA College Members to serve as Mentors

MSVMA college members have the opportunity to participate in this summer's conference for free by signing up to serve as a mentor for the day of the Leadership Conference. MSVMA College mentors will help by leading small group activities as well as being a part of a Q & A during our lunch time together.

If you are interested in being a mentor, email Wendee Wolf-Schlarf at wendeewolfschlarf@msvma.org

For more information and registration form, visit msvma.org/CSLC/

Submitted by Wendee Wolf-Schlarf

2024 Michigan Music Conference

Michigan Music Conference

January 25-27, 2024



WE ARE LOOKING FOR...

Interest Session Presenters
Deadline: April 28, 2023

Choral Hour Applicants
Deadline: May 15, 2023

Calling all MMC Interest Session Presenters and MMC Choral Hour Applicants! Both deadlines are quickly approaching so I wanted to offer an explanation to anyone who is new to the process.

Interest Session Presenters: The deadline for session proposals is April 28, 2023. After following the link below, you'll create an account and register. You don't need to have all of the details figured out for your session, but you should have a title, description, demonstration choir and/or piano needs, and basic room needs. After the deadline, the MMC Planning Committee will review submissions for approval and scheduling. However, we can only approve and schedule what is submitted! If you've ever thought, "Why don't we have a session about _____ this year", it's possibly because it wasn't submitted! EVERYONE is encouraged to apply.

2024 MMC Interest Submissions

Choral Hour Applicants: The deadline for Choral Hour applicants is May 15, 2023. Using the link below, you'll complete a Google Form detailing your ensemble information and submit three recordings, two of which must be from this current school year. One must be acapella. From there, the recordings move to a blind listening panel for selection. Our goal is to have all schools notified during the month of June so you can make arrangements for next year as necessary. Similarly to what you read above, the blind listening panel can only choose from submitted recordings! If you've ever left a Choral Hour performance thinking, "Maybe I'll try next year", this is your chance!

MMC Choral
Hour

Submitted by Sarah Stockton, President - Elect

Save the Date! Summer Conference



MSVMA Conference Registration

Registration includes: Entrance to all sessions, music for your interest sessions, and select meals onsite.

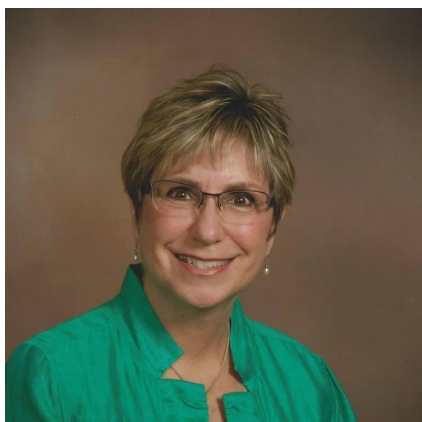
Early Bird Registration opens May 1

- 1 Day Conference Pass | \$85
- 2 Day Conference Pass | \$170
- 1 Day Non-Member Conference Pass | \$170
- 2 Day Non-Member Conference Pass | \$210

To make reservations visit www.porthuron.doubletree.com. In the field provided, enter group code: **MSV** or call the hotel directly at 810-984-8000 and mention the group code MSV.

Discounted rooms are available until June 24.

Volunteer Spotlight



How long have you volunteered for MSVMA?

I have been volunteering for MSVMA for 20+ years. I've been an adjudicator since 2014 and have been volunteering for seven years.

What is your favorite memory surrounding an MSVMA event? My first Summer Conference at Alma College, and meeting so many colleagues who would become friends and mentors.

Who has been your musical or professional inspiration?

Dr. Craig Arnold, Dr. Joe Miller, Dr. Rod Eichenberger, Dr. Craig Hella Johnson and Conspirare, Dr. Jason Max

Ferdinand and Dr. Kimberly Dunn Adams

What do you like to do with your free time outside of changing lives through music education? I love to visit my children and grandchildren, visit all kinds of parks, local, state, and national, ride my bike, and kayak with my spouse, Amy.

Meet your District Managers



Kathryn Becksvoort DISTRICT 7 MANAGER

About Me

Favorite Food: Greasy burgers

Fun Fact: Aside from voice and piano, trombone is her primary instrument.

Hobbies: She enjoys hiking, reading, traveling, and cooking.

Favorite Movie: The Breakfast Club

Favorite Show: Bob's Burgers

Favorite Book: Anything by Malcolm Gladwell or Atul Gawande

Your #1 song that gets replayed: Fun fact - I actually don't listen to music in my car at all! My ears are *done* after a day of teaching. LOL.

Announcements



**Rackham Choir High School Vocal
Internship Program Auditions
September 2023 - May 2024 Season**

Saturday, June 17, 2023 @ First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak

The Rackham Choir High School Vocal Internship Program is pleased to announce auditions for its upcoming 2023-2024 Season. The program is designed to support students with exceptional vocal talent and commitment who are entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year of high school in Fall 2023 and who aspire to study music, musical theater, or music education in college. Please pass along this information to students who could benefit from this program!

Selected Rackham Choir High School Vocal Interns will:

- Receive a scholarship toward private vocal instruction with a private instructor.
- Enjoy full membership in Rackham Choir with dues waived for the 2023-2024 season (rehearsals typically Tuesdays 7 PM-9 PM).
- Rehearse and perform under the baton of Maestro Brandon Waddles, Rackham's Artistic and Music Director and Assistant Professor of Choral Conducting & Music Education at Wayne State University.
- Receive coaching with Maestro Waddles and collaborative pianist and instructor Julian Goods in preparation for college or conservatory auditions.
- Master class performances with Rackham Choir artists serving as clinicians.
- Be a featured soloist in a spring concert showcasing the Rackham Choir High School Vocal Interns.
- Receive mentoring by adult members of the Rackham Choir.

To be considered for an audition, the student must:

- Be in good academic standing.
- Submit the enclosed application and letter of recommendation (submitted by author) prior to June 3, 2023 to administration@rackhamchoir.org.
- Submit video recording(s) of two (2) contrasting musical selections - any genre of classical or musical theater music appropriate for young voices is acceptable. Selections must be memorized. Video recordings should be uploaded to this link:
www.dropbox.com/request/h67dpjY3Qc0tqa9byxzB

Finalists will be invited to the live final auditions at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak; 529 Hendrie Blvd, Royal Oak, MI 48067 on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Alternate live audition times can be arranged in June if necessary. Singers who are awarded the Rackham Choir High School Vocal Internship will be required to maintain good academic standing, attend Rackham rehearsals, and attend voice lessons.

Click [HERE](#) for the Application Form

To find out more about Rackham Symphony Choir, visit www.rackhamchoir.org. Please contact us at 515-720-7034 or administration@rackhamchoir.org for additional information.

Submitted by Isabel Allaway

Want to submit a story for Tempo!



feedback@msvma.org

MSVMA Sponsors

The Michigan School Vocal Music Association is proud to be supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).



To become an MSVMA sponsor, contact Executive Director Erik Jacobson at erikjacobson@msvma.org.



MSVMA | P.O. Box 1131, Big Rapids, MI 49307

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